



## What's New

Don't forget, **October 10th is "Put the Brakes on Fatalities" Day.** Posters and Tool Kits have been distributed to the FHWA field offices. The sponsoring groups have launched a website <http://www.brakesonfatalities.org> to provide background information about the event.

Secretary Mineta, senior representatives of the National Society of Professional Engineers, American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, National Association of Governors' Highway Safety Representatives, AAA, Roadway Safety Foundation, and The Road Improvement Program will participate in a kick off event on Capitol Hill where senior members of the Senate plan to announce the passage of a Senate resolution declaring October 10 as "Put the Brakes on Fatalities" Day. ~~And~~ Please don't forget to do your part as a driver, - **"Drive as if your life depends on it."** For more information contact Ann Walls at (202) 366-6836 or by e-mail at [ann.walls@fhwa.dot.gov](mailto:ann.walls@fhwa.dot.gov).

**Office of Program Integration and Delivery welcomes Keith Gates.** Keith will be joining the office and teaming with Larry Brown in integrating advanced technologies for safety, especially as part of the Intelligent Transportation System/Intelligent Vehicle Initiative Program. Keith was the TRB manager of the IDEA (Innovations Deserving Exploratory Analysis) Program focusing on ITS and safety technologies. He also worked in private industry. Keith has a background in electrical engineering and complex systems design.

## Human Factors

Human Factors for Transportation Engineers Workshop: **One-day workshop includes specific discussion of highway standards as they related to driver needs. Human skills and capabilities are discussed and demonstrated and case studies are included (Beth Alicandri, 202-366-6409)**

### Upcoming Workshops

February 25-28, 2002 North Dakota, Contact Steve Busek (701-250-4348)

## Intersection Safety

The FHWA, AASHTO, and ITE are organizing an **Intersection Safety Workshop in Milwaukee, WI, from November 14 to 16, 2001.** The intent of this workshop is to have approximately 150 invited participants from education, enforcement, and engineering disciplines convene and discuss all facets of intersection safety and develop a national agenda and action plan. This is a major initiative of the AASHTO Standing Committee on Highway Traffic Safety.

Also, as a part of the overall effort to enhance intersection safety awareness, an eight - ten minute video will be prepared prior to the Intersection Safety Workshop. The main purpose of the video is to take a closer look at intersections safety in terms of myths versus realities and to emphasize the importance of individual responsibility in making intersections safer. Contact Hari Kalla (202-366-5915) for more information. **Visit the new intersection safety web site at** <http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/programs/intersections.htm>.

**Road Safety Audit Training Course is being developed by NHI and will be available in November 2001.** Information on the course and scheduling requests should be made through Lynn Cadarr at NHI (703-235-0528).





## What's New (*continued*)

***Guidelines and Recommendations To Accommodate Older Drivers and Pedestrians (FHWA-RD-01-051) Now Available!*** This publication provides practitioners with a condensed source of practical information that links older road user characteristics to highway design, operational, and traffic engineering recommendations by addressing specific roadway features. These Guideline and Recommendations supplement existing standards and guidelines in the areas of highway geometry, operations, and traffic control devices. The information in this publication should be of interest to highway designers, traffic engineers, and highway safety specialists involved in the design and operation of highway facilities. It will also be of interest to researchers concerned with issues of older road user safety and mobility. To obtain copies of this report, contact the FHWA Research and Technology Report Center (301) 577-0818, fax: (301) 577-1421, or the National Technical Information Service (703) 487-4650, fax: (703) 321-8547.

A series of **safety related pamphlets** is currently under development. These pamphlets are intended to assist the safety community in training and implementing small projects and programs related to or resulting in improved safety on highways, bicycle and pedestrian paths, and highway-rail crossings. They are also intended to assist safety partners in training and demonstrating safety improvements, identifying sources of appropriate materials, and providing core safety technology. The pamphlets can be used by Federal, state, and local agencies to train and develop safety programs for small organizations (National Parks, National Forests, Military Posts, Indian Reservations, State district organizations, and local governments). The first pamphlet, ***Maintenance of Signs and Sign Supports for Local Roads and Streets***, FHWA-SA-01-009, is completed and will be distributed to FHWA field offices and LTAP Centers. The PDF version of the report is posted on the "What's New" page [http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/whats\\_new.htm](http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/whats_new.htm).

## Speed Management

### **Cooperative Agreements on Speed Setting and Enforcement Demonstration Projects**

The USDOT Speed Management Team is sponsoring field operational tests on speed setting and enforcement. Multiple cooperative agreements will evaluate the effectiveness of a "three E's" (engineering, enforcement, education) approach to address the problem of speeding. The demonstration projects will encourage re-evaluating posted speed limits through rigorous engineering studies, strictly enforcing revised speed limits, and educating the community and the judiciary on the whys and hows of the program. **Award announcements for the first set of agreements are expected in October.** (Beth Alicandri, 202-366-6409)

***Restoring Credibility to Speed Setting: Engineering, Enforcement & Educational Issues*** is now available on the FHWA Speed Management Safety Website ([safety.fhwa.dot.gov/programs/speedmgnt.htm](http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/programs/speedmgnt.htm)). The report summarizes the findings of workshops that brought together critical engineering, enforcement and judiciary personnel to discuss the multi-disciplinary aspects of managing speed. A "planning guide" for others who want to sponsor multi-disciplinary speed management workshops is under development. **If your state is interested in hosting a workshop in FY 2002, please contact Beth Alicandri, 202-366-6409.**

Speed Management Exhibit and Handouts **Present national data on speeding-related fatalities by road functional class. Handouts examine rural versus urban speeding data, and provide a historical perspective.** A new exhibit and "kit" addressing a more integrated "3-Es" approach to speed management is being developed. **(Beth Alicandri, 202-366-6409)**





## What's New (*continued*)



**National Highway Safety Awards Update.** The nine award recipients of the 2001 National Highway Safety Awards have now been officially notified of their selection. Congratulations to all on their successes and thank you to everyone whose agency is contributing to improving our nation's highway safety. A press and recognition event is being planned for November, 2001 in Washington, D.C. Details will be provided as they become available.

## Ongoing Safety Programs...

**Review of Highway Safety Improvement Programs** - A team consisting of representatives from the Office of Safety (Ken Epstein and Carl Hayden) and the field (Gary Corino and Don Neumann) has completed a review of highway safety improvement programs in six States: Delaware, Oregon, Connecticut, Florida, Ohio and Iowa. The purpose of this review was to determine how the States were carrying out the Highway-Rail Grade Crossings and Hazard Elimination Programs and to identify good practices being carried out. The review was highly successful and a number of good practices were identified. The review team will be preparing a report on its findings and sharing them with the field. (Ken Epstein, 202-366-2157)

Cooperative Agreements on Variable Speed Limits in Work Zones Field Operational Tests **FHWA will be sponsoring field operational test on variable speed limits (VSL) in work zones. A number of 18-month long cooperative agreements to evaluate the utility of VSL systems in work zones are planned.** Award announcements are expected in October (**Beth Alicandri, 202-366-6409**)

**ROAD SAFETY AUDITS:** Is a process wherein a team of independent experts identifies unsafe roadway conditions during project design or on existing roads. See the report of the International Scanning Team <http://www.international.fhwa.dot.gov/pubs.cfm>. Also see <http://www.roadwaysafetyaudits.org>. A training course will be available soon. (Fred Small 202.366.9212)

**RED LIGHT RUNNING:** "Synthesis and Evaluation of Red Light Running: Automated Enforcement Programs in the United States" is available at <http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/programs/srlr.htm>. (Pat Hasson 708.283.3510)

**PEDESTRIAN SAFETY:** *Pedestrian/Bicyclist Safety Resource Set* CD-ROM (FHWA-SA-00-005) contains information on how to improve pedestrian and bicyclist safety in communities across the nation. It includes information on facility design, planning, guidelines, good practices, and tools to aid in countermeasures development. This CD is intended for safety practitioners and other advocates who want to create "walkable/bikeable" communities. The Gold Camera Award-winning "*Safer Journey- Interactive Pedestrian Safety Awareness*" CD-ROM (FHWA-SA-00-009) is an interactive CD that takes the user through various pedestrian safety scenarios. It has been developed to improve the level of pedestrian knowledge for all road users and safety practitioners. [http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/programs/ped\\_bike.htm](http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/programs/ped_bike.htm). (Levenson Boodlal 202-366-8044).

**GRADE CROSSING SAFETY:** The *Railroad Safety Statistics Annual Report* for 1998 is available at <http://safetydata.fra.dot.gov/OfficeofSafety/Forms/Default.asp>.

**OPERATION LIFESAVERS** expands web site, plans new safety campaign <http://www.oli.org> (Fred Small 202-366.9212).





## Ongoing Safety Programs...

**CRASHWORTHINESS OF ROADSIDE SAFETY HARDWARE:** Since October 1, 1998, virtually all roadside hardware installed on the National Highway System must meet the crash evaluation criteria identified in NCHRP Report 350. The compliance date for transitions to bridge railings and for precast concrete barriers was extended to October 1, 2002. See <http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/programs/roadsidehardware.htm>.

This site provides information on accepted devices and related FHWA policies. (Richard Powers 202.366.1320 Permanent and Temporary Barriers, Terminals, Bridge Railings/Transitions, and Crash Cushions) (Nicholas Artimovich 202.366.1331, Work Zone Devices, Sign Supports, and Poles).

**SEAT BELT SAFETY:** The FHWA supports the Buckle Up America campaign for increasing seat belt use nationwide. This campaign focuses on building public-private partnerships, enacting strong legislation, maintaining active, high-visibility law enforcement and conducting effective public education. (Shirley Thompson 202.366.2154) <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/people/injury/airbags/buckleplan>

**NATIONAL WORK ZONE SAFETY INFORMATION CLEARING HOUSE:** The Clearinghouse provides a single contact for information and technical assistance concerning the safe and effective operation of work zones. Clearinghouse: 888.447.5556 Fax: 409.845.0568. <http://wzsafety.tamu.edu>. (Ann Walls 202.366.6836).

**WORK ZONE SAFETY:** Transportation agencies have identified their best practices/policies for minimizing delay and enhancing safety during construction and maintenance operations. See Report at <http://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/wz/bestprac.htm>.

**WORK ZONE SAFETY NETWORK:** More than 30 highway and safety organizations are working together to improve driver awareness of the hazards encountered when driving through work zones. See <http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov> for more information. (Michael Robinson 202-366-2193).

**MANUAL ON UNIFORM TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES (MUTCD):** The MUTCD contains standards and guidance for the design and use of signs, pavement markings, and traffic signals. The millennium edition of the MUTCD was published in December 2000. The entire manual is available at <http://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov>. (Ernie Huckaby 202.366.9064)

**INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS (ITS):** The FHWA, Safety Core Business Unit (CBU) is involved in many aspects of ITS development, including Field Operational Tests. Major Safety CBU efforts currently include Variable Speed Limits, Pedestrian ITS, ITS Archived Data User Service (ADUS), Highway-Rail Crossing ITS, Intelligent Vehicle Initiative (IVI) cooperative and independent infrastructure ITS, and ITS Safety Program Assessments and Resources. (Larry J. Brown, 202.366.2214)

**TRANSPORTATION SAFETY INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS (TSIMS):** The FHWA and NHTSA are working with AASHTO to develop a software package for safety information management systems. The system design and a prototype will be completed by mid 2001. The system will take advantage of existing analysis and data capture systems and will facilitate safety analysis data by linking different safety-related data. (Carl Hayden 202.366.2176)





## Ongoing Safety Programs...

**IOWA NATIONAL MODEL:** Iowa has created a model public safety information system for data collection and management.

A software package has been developed for free distribution to public agencies that wish to upgrade existing and new data collection forms. <http://www.dot.state.ia.us/natmodel> (David Smith 202.366.6614)

**INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE (IACP) CLEARINGHOUSE:** The clearinghouse provides agency managers with information on automation projects to help them make more informed decisions on what technology to purchase and use for the collection and distribution of traffic crash data. <http://www.iacptechnology.org> (David Smith 202.366.6614)

## SAFETY PERFORMANCE OF RURAL TWO-LANE HIGHWAYS

A report titled ***Prediction of the Expected Safety Performance of Rural Two-Lane Highways*** that documents the algorithm for predicting the safety performance of rural two-lane highways is now available. The algorithm estimates the effect on safety performance of roadway segment parameters including lane width, shoulder width, shoulder type, horizontal curves, grades, driveway density, two-way left-turn lanes, passing lanes, and roadside design, and of intersection parameters including skew angle, traffic control, exclusive left- and right-turn lanes, sight distance, and driveways. The algorithm enables highway agencies to estimate the safety performance of existing or proposed highways and to compare the safety performance of geometric design alternatives.

The algorithm forms the basis for the Crash Prediction Module of the Interactive Highway Safety Design Model (IHSDM). The software for the Crash Prediction Module is currently under development. Beta testing of the software will begin in early 2002. Please contact Michael Griffith at [mike.griffith@fhwa.dot.gov](mailto:mike.griffith@fhwa.dot.gov) or (202) 493-3316 to obtain a copy of the report. A PDF version of the report can be obtained at <http://www.tfhrc.gov/safety/99207.htm>. For general information about IHSDM, please contact Ray Krammes at [ray.krammes@fhwa.dot.gov](mailto:ray.krammes@fhwa.dot.gov) or (202) 493-3312.

EVENTS AND MEETINGS		
Dates	Location	Event
September 21 – 28	Atlanta GA	National Safety Council Congress & Expo
October 1 – 2	Portsmouth NH	AASHTO/ARBTA/AGC Joint Committee Task Force 13 Standardization of Highway and Bridge Hardware (contact Nick Artimovich for information)
October 2 - 5	Portsmouth NH	AASHTO Task Force for Roadside Safety (contact Richard Powers for information) <i>10/02/01 will be a joint meeting of Task Force 13 and Task Force for Roadside Safety</i>
October 10	Nationwide	Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day
October 10 – 13	Houston TX	American Society of Civil Engineers Conference & Expo
October 11 – 13	Long Beach CA	National Association of Women Highway Safety Leaders Annual Conference
October 14 – 17	Long Beach CA	National Association of Governors' Highway Safety Representatives Annual Meeting
October 27 – 31	Toronto Canada	International Association of Chiefs of Police Annual Meeting
November 4 – 7	Dallas TX	National Highway – Rail Grade Crossing Safety Conference
November 14 – 16	Milwaukee WI	Intersection Safety Workshop
November 26 – 28	Hilton Hawaiian Village	Hawaii Traffic Safety Forum
December 2 – 3	Ft. Worth TX	AASHTO Annual Meeting





## Resources

**SPEED MANAGEMENT EXHIBIT AND HANDOUTS** present national data on speeding-related fatalities by road functional class. Handouts examine rural versus urban speeding data and provide a historical perspective. (Beth Alicandri 202.366.6409)

**SAFETY MANAGEMENT SELF-ASSESSMENT:** This is a tool to enable States to evaluate their safety management processes. This self-assessment combines previous guidance on safety management with the seven quality principles of the Malcolm Baldrige National Award criteria. (Ken Epstein 202.366.2157 or

**OLDER DRIVER HIGHWAY DESIGN:** The Design Handbook and training course will be available by November, 2001 at <http://www.tfhr.gov>. (Dave Smith 202.366.6614)

**Child Safety Website** provides a list of new child restraints and features; new vehicles and child safety features; tips for installing and using child safety restraints; and child seat help (fitting/inspection stations and technician contacts). <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/people/injury/childps/>

**ROAD USER GUIDE** helps drivers understand the traffic control devices and regulations in Canada, Mexico, and the US. Differences and similarities are depicted. (Ernie Huckaby 202.366.9064)

**THE MODEL MINIMUM UNIFORM CRASH CRITERIA (MMUCC)** is cited in TEA-21 as one of the factors to be considered in applications for safety improvement grants. While it is voluntary, the States are encouraged to use it when revising and updating their traffic crash reports. <http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov> (People Safety/Crash Information/ MMUCC). Hard copies are available. (Carl Hayden 202.366.2176)

**READ YOUR ROAD BROCHURE:** A digitized camera-ready copy is available. The FHWA is seeking partners to assist in printing and distributing. The content of Read Your Road is available at <http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/media/ryr.htm> (Ann Walls 202.366.6836)

**MOVING SAFELY ACROSS AMERICA CD** is designed for the general public. Users can interact with and experience various aspects of highway safety, and test their understanding of these topics. (Ann Walls 202.366.6836) now on the web at <http://safety.fhwa.dot.gov>.

**Apple iMAC Moving Safely Across America Kiosk**, tabletop display, and locker magnets available for outreach activities by contacting FHWA Resource Centers. Contacts are: Eastern RC, Dean Larsen, 410-962-2372; Midwestern RC, Pat Hasson, 708-283-3595; Southern RC, Frank Julian, 404-562-3689; and Western RC, Keith Harrison, 415-744-2657.

**SPANISH VERSIONS OF EVERYONE IS A PEDESTRIAN BROCHURES** teach pedestrians how to navigate through work zones, understand pedestrian signs and signals, and how to navigate around large trucks. Pedestrian Safety Exhibit & Information Center. <http://www.bicyclinginfo.org> and <http://www.walkinginfo.org> (Tamara Broyhill 202.366.4077).

**AASHTO HIGHWAY SAFETY DESIGN AND OPERATIONS GUIDE** (The "Yellow Book") serves as a primary tool to identify potential safety problems and describes ways to eliminate safety problems or reducing crash severity. <http://www.aashto.org>. (Carl Hayden 202.366.2176)







## Resources (continued)

**AASHTO STRATEGIC SAFETY PLAN** The goal of this comprehensive plan is to substantially reduce vehicle-related fatalities and injuries on our Nation's highways. The plan includes the traditional AASHTO concerns for "infrastructure" as well as the driver, occupant, vehicle, and post-crash responsibilities. <http://www.aashto.org>. (Rudy Umbs 202.366.2177)

**NIGHT LIGHTS VIDEO** takes a non-technical look at how retroreflectivity saves lives. A variety of situations and conditions are presented through the eyes of different motorists: teens, soccer moms, and older drivers. (Peter Hatzi 202-366-8036)

### Office of Highway Safety

**Goal:** To continually improve highway safety by reducing the number (20 percent in ten years) of highway fatalities and injuries including large trucks (50 percent in ten years). Ensuring safe travel on highways is a guiding principle throughout the FHWA.

**Focus:** High-risk areas through technical assistance, research, training, data analysis, and public information as well as through compliance and education. The FHWA is working with safety partners to heighten safety awareness within the highway community, business, industry, and the Public.

**Top Priorities:** Run-off-road crashes, Pedestrians, Speed Management, and Intersections.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION, see TEA-21 Key Information fact sheets

To Order FHWA Publications, please contact the FHWA Report Center

Phone: 301.577.0818 / Fax: 301.577.1421, FHWA Safety Office: 202.366.2288

